

# The Pocahontas Times.

If thou would'st read a lesson that will keep Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep, Go to the woods and hills.—Longfellow.

Vol. 23, No. 20.

Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, December 8, 1904.

\$100 a Year.

**L. M. McCLINTIC,**  
Attorney-at-Law,  
MARLINTON, W. VA.  
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

**N. C. McNEIL, G. D. McNEIL,**  
McNEIL & McNEIL,  
Attorneys-at-Law,  
Marlinton, West Virginia,  
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Court of Appeals of the State of West Virginia.

**ANDREW PRICE,**  
Attorney,  
MARLINTON, W. VA.  
Practice in Pocahontas and adjoining counties. Prompt and careful attention given to all legal work.

**H. M. LOCKRIDGE,**  
Attorney-at-Law,  
HUNTSVILLE, W. VA.  
Prompt and careful attention given to all legal work.

**JOHN A. PRESTON, FRED WALLACE**  
PRESTON & WALLACE  
Attorneys-at-Law,  
LEWISBURG, W. VA.

**H. S. RUCKER,**  
Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public  
MARLINTON, W. VA.  
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas county and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

**A. M. OLIVER,**  
NOTARY PUBLIC,  
CARPENTER & CONTRACTOR,  
Durbin, W. Va.

**DR. O. J. CAMPBELL,**  
Dentist,  
MONTEREY, VA.  
Will visit Pocahontas county at least twice a year. The exact date of his visit will appear in this paper.

**H. L. VANSICKLER,**  
Attorney-at-Law,  
LEWISBURG, W. VA.  
Practices in Greenbrier and adjoining counties.

**F. RAYMOND HILL,**  
Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public,  
ACADEMY, W. VA.  
Will practice in all the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and Supreme Court of Appeals.

**Geo. R. Richardson,**  
Attorney-at-Law,  
MARLINTON, W. VA.  
Prompt and careful attention given to all businesses placed in their hands.

**DR. ERNEST B. HILL,**  
DENTIST,  
Graduate University of Maryland.  
Dentistry practiced in all its branches.  
Office in 1st Nat. Bank Bldg. 2nd floor.

**G. W. DUNCAN,**  
Practical Land Surveyor,  
1st Nat. Bk. Bldg., Marlinton, W. Va.  
All calls by phone and mail promptly answered.

**West Virginia Citizens Trust and Guarantee Company**  
This company will furnish bonds of all county, state and municipal officers; fiduciary bonds, such as administrators, guardians, etc.; junction bonds; bank officials, agents, indemnifying bonds, in court bonds of all kinds; attachment bonds, treasurers, etc.  
T. S. McNEEL.

**Escar F. Curry,**  
Dealer in  
GENERAL MERCHANDISE,  
and  
SURVEYOR OF LANDS,  
Linnwood, West Virginia.  
C. A. YEAGER,  
UNDERTAKER,  
Marlinton, W. Va.  
A large line of Caskets, Coffins and Undertakers supplies always on hand. All calls given prompt service.

**In Memoriam.**  
In the twilight of the evening,  
On the Sabbath day of rest,  
I am sitting sad and lonely,  
Thinking of the happy past.  
Happy days when thou wert with me,  
When life seemed worth living for,  
But the light of life has fled.

In the twilight of the evening,  
At the closing of the day,  
Oh! how darkly fall the shadows  
Round my sad and lonely way.  
How I miss thee, oh! my darling,  
None but God can ever know;  
And I feel like now is ended  
All my happiness below.

In the twilight of the evening,  
When no living throng is near,  
Then I almost hear your voices  
Whispering words of love and cheer.

Thou' the stream of death divides  
Yet I sometimes think you near.  
Can it be, precious loved ones,  
That you visit me while here?

In the twilight of the evening,  
When my day of life is done,  
When my toils and cares are over  
And my weary race is run,  
May thy spirit linger near me;  
And as earth fades from my sight

May I greet with joy my loved ones  
In that world so pure and bright.  
I have four sisters, a brother  
And aged father no doubt in  
Heaven today lifting up their  
Voices in praise while I am left  
To pray.

## THE NEW ASSESSOR'S LAW

**Increases His Salary, but Keeps Him From Sleeping.**

J. H. Buzzard, who will enter on his third term as assessor January 1st, 1905, was in town the other day with a much-battered copy of the acts of the special session in hands which showed signs of hard usage. The pamphlet showed signs of falling to pieces at section 53 of chapter 4, relating to the duties of assessors in regard to the capitation.

This is the law which the worthy tax revisers borrowed from the laws of Turkey and requires the assessor to collect the tax when he assesses it.

Next spring the assessor as he makes his round will collect from every male inhabitant over the years of twenty-one, and not exempt by order of the county court on the ground of bodily infirmity, one big iron dollar per head, and if the dollar is refused he will immediately levy on watch, hat, coat, breeches or boots of the inhabitant and advertise the same for sale.

At the levy term of the county court he will report to the court the names of all who have paid and a list of all from whom he has been unable to collect the required amount. The court will then credit the assessor with ten cents for every capitation collected, and charge him with every one he has failed to collect.

The list will then be turned over to the sheriff, who will endeavor to collect what the assessor has failed. For every one the sheriff collects the assessor will be charged 25 cents, and those that the sheriff has failed will still be charged to the assessor.

The county court may then, if it sees fit, credit him with such delinquencies as it is satisfied could not have been collected by the sheriff or the assessor by the exercise of due diligence.

The assessor is required to give an additional bond of not less than \$4,000 nor more than \$20,000 to cover money thus collected.

It will work out something after this style:  
The County Court of the County, In Account with The Assessor:  
By 2500 capitation taxes collected at 10 per cent., \$250.00  
To 500 not collected, \$500.00  
To 25 cents on sheriff's collections, 50.00  
By amount collected by sheriff, 50.00  
By 450 delinquencies allowed by court, 450.00  
\$750.00 \$501.50  
Balance due assessor, \$248.50.  
But what if the county court and assessor fall out? West Virginia expects every assessor to do his duty.

**Prof. Aldine Stillman Kieffer.**  
The decease of this widely-known gentleman occurred at Dayton, Va., November 30th, 1904, in the 65th year of his age.

His birthplace was near Miami, Mo., where he was born August 1st, 1840, as the eldest son of Mr. John and Mrs. Mary Funk Kieffer. His mother was a daughter of Joseph Funk, of Singer's Glen, Rockingham county, Va.

Joseph Funk's "Genuine Church Music" was widely used forty or fifty years since in our county. Upon the death of her husband in 1847 Mrs. Kieffer, with her two sons and three daughters, returned to the home of her father.

At nine years of age Aldine began work in his grandfather's printing office and became an enthusiastic printer. His educational advantages are spoken of as very meagre, comprising but a few months' instruction in a little log school house. Yet really they were of the best character to fit him for a life of conspicuous usefulness, when it is remembered that the bright boy, under the tutelage of his grandfather, was taught the elementary principles of music and was prompted to use the well-furnished library owned by his eminent relative in the study of the Bible, pure and simple, history and poetry.

Many of his efforts in writing verses and composing music were published before he was sixteen years of age. Selecting sacred music for a profession he spent his 19th and 20th years in teaching, and was very successful, but relinquished his chosen calling to enter the Confederate service, and on the 21st of July, 1861, enlisted as a private in Capt. George Christman's company, known as Company H, 10th Virginia Infantry, Stonewall Brigade, and during the service he was promoted a lieutenant.

In May, 1864, he became a prisoner of war at Spotsylvania Court House, and during his imprisonment in Fort Delaware he studied Latin, algebra and geometry, under a Mr. Adams, a graduate of the University of Virginia, paying tobacco for tuition fees.

It would require a very extended sketch to mention in detail what he did upon returning home in May, 1865, down to the close of his life's strenuous endeavors. The Temple Star is an illustration of his best work, the sale of which is estimated at a million copies, and is still in demand.

"Hours of Fancy," a collection of his poems, a book that will not soon be forgotten by those who have a taste for well-written verse on local and familiar topics.

The monumental work of his life, so far as results are at present apparent, was the founding of The Musical Million in January, 1870, with the late William Rohr, of Harrisonburg, associate editor. That journal has the distinction of being one of the most successful of its kind ever published in the United States as an exponent of the shape-note system of musical notation, and it is now in its 35th year.

It was my good fortune to have had the unrestricted use of its columns for twelve or thirteen years. I shall ever feel grateful to Prof. Kieffer for the opportunity of attempting some of the best work of my life in the service of sacred song and exposition of the Holy Scriptures on lines not deemed expedient by the friends of the religious press thirty years ago.

"Twilight Is Falling" and "The Grave on the Green Hill Side" are among the most popular of his songs; and may be heard almost anywhere, such is their national reputation.

The Harrisonburg News states that Prof. Kieffer had been in failing health for several years, but not confined to his room until the past few weeks preceding his death, the immediate cause of which was a general breaking down of his system, affecting the lungs and stomach.

Our lamented friend is survived by his wife and four sons. As the result of twenty years' intimate personal intercourse with Prof. Kieffer, he is to be remembered by me as a friend who exaggerated all favors shown him, and who was ever ready to palliate the foibles and failings of others. During this time, moreover, he was an enthusiastic member of the Baptist church. His grandfather was a leading deacon and his mother a devoted Presbyterian "mother in Israel" all her useful life.

W. T. P.

**To the Bright Girls of the Country.**  
The expenses for one year at a leading Southern college will be paid for a bright, worthy girl of Pocahontas county, W. Va., who will secure for me one hundred and fifteen subscribers to my book, "Lee and Longstreet at High Tide." The college expenses include board, books, tuition, laundry and incidentals.

For the double purpose of giving the people the truth of our civil war history, and of extending a helping hand to the struggling, ambitious girls of the country, I am pleased to place a year at college within reach of a girl of this county who desires an education earnestly enough to exert herself a little. Should the girl availing herself of this opportunity prove particularly deserving, I pledge myself to the endeavor to open the way for her to complete the college course.

The girl who is interested in this offer should communicate with me at once, and her communication should be accompanied by the endorsement of her county school commissioner, the editor of this paper and the teacher of the last school she attended.

I would be glad to communicate with every ambitious girl in this county who is struggling to educate herself.

Mrs. JAMES LONGSTREET,  
Gainesville, Ga.

**"Lee and Longstreet at High Tide."**  
The people of this country will refuse to be prejudiced against Mrs. Longstreet's book on the life of the "War Horse" of the Confederacy by the suggestion that it was written in a spirit of friendliness to the North.

Mrs. Longstreet was born in the American Union, after the Confederate struggle had become the "Lost Cause" of American history. She evidently has never known what it was to hate anything American. It was high patriotism, worthy of the opening days of a new century, that prompted a young woman of the New South to invite a valiant Union officer to write the introduction to the biography of a dead adversary.

The opening words of General Sickles' introduction to "Lee and Longstreet at High Tide" happily silence all criticism:

"If it be thought strange that I should write a preface to the memoir of a conspicuous adversary, I reply that the civil war is only a memory, its asperities are forgotten, both armies were American, old army friendships have been renewed and new army friendships have been formed among the combatants, the truth of history is dear to all of us and the amenities of chivalrous manhood are cherished by the North and South, when justice to either is involved."

Sickles is one of the most famous of the surviving Union officers of the civil war. He has been prominent in Democratic politics in New York since the war, and has suffered much in consequence.

The South will not fall out with Mrs. Longstreet for defending the great name that she bears, now that the stout warrior is dead and cannot answer his accusers; a magnanimous people will honor her for it.—Exchange.

## NOTES

Gleaned by a Trip to Greenbrier.  
Personal Observations.

October 28-31, 1904, were passed in an excursion to Marlinton to assist the Clifton congregation in making out a call for the pastoral services of Rev. J. B. Massie, of South Carolina.

This young minister is well known to many of our readers in lower Pocahontas, hence it is presumed that an item about his call would interest them. It would actually be a repetition of much that was written in previous notes to mention many of the incidents that fell under my notice on the days referred to. On my return homeward I was at Keister nearly an hour before train time.

A party of six or eight nicely dressed ladies came walking up the track, having spent the day in a social outing in the neighborhood below. One of them was carrying a fine looking baby and she in very earnest tones called to the Keister postmistress if it was possible to get a drink of good water. She was informed there was water, but whether it was the kind that was wanted she was not so certain.

"O! I am so thirsty that it seems to me I would give a dollar for one drink."

"O! you can get a bucket full for that money, such as it may be."

"Well, that is a bargain." Upon going to the house the mother and infant were huddled up and soon rejoined the party on the track on their homeward way up the Greenbrier.

In the meanwhile a group of section hands working near suspended their labors and came to the station and promised to do the flagging for me. When the train approached on good time they understood from the way the whistling sounded it was going to stop without being flagged.

Much to my pleasant surprise Charley Boone appeared with Conductor Valandingham and with their pleasant greetings and joint efforts I was ushered into the ladies' coach as politely as if it were a fashionable parlor.

Upon inquiry I was sorry to hear that the young flagman had been severely and, perhaps, dangerously hurt while hunting Monday morning by an accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of one of his young friends.

This was the sad explanation of Flagman Boone's presence. As the train neared Renick one's attention is attracted by noticing that the Greenbrier river has disappeared from view. It seems, however, that with the Renick people this is not regarded as anything uncommon, but has been a thing of frequent occurrence ever since the pioneers came here, 150 years ago, so far as traditions go.

In dry seasons the river disappears just below the Free Bridge, but emerges again about three-fourths of a mile lower down. Upon being helped out of the coach at Renick by Capt. Valandingham in his most gracious manner, and received his kind advice to take good care of myself, the first person to meet me was the Rev. Remus Clark, who is so widely and favorably known all over our great county. He gave me a pressing and cordial invitation to his home, and would be ready to go with me in a few minutes, if I would say so, some two miles away.

His errand to the station was to see Mrs. Butler off for her home in Salem, Virginia. This lady is the widow wife of the lamented Methodist minister whose death occurred so unexpectedly from heart blood-clotting some weeks previously at a Baltimore hospital, Rev. J. W. Butler.

Though this bereavement leaves her with the care of five young children, in reduced circumstances, yet she insisted upon meeting all liabilities, reserving merely enough to pay her car fare home to Salem.

Presiding Elder Clark used his kind offices far as he could to relieve her in her great sorrow, and the blessings of the widow and the fatherless will rest upon him and his in a touchingly beautiful sense, as I was made to feel while listening to her farewell words, expressive of her great appreciation of his sympathetic, helpful assistance in the greatest sorrow of her life.

As we slowly ascended Renick hill, riding in his buggy, driven by the docile white horse that so many persons have seen in Greenbrier, Pocahontas and Highland, I had been so forcibly reminded of what the Apostle James says about his idea of religion that I had to repeat it for the Presiding

Elder's benefit, lest he might be too modest to think it might apply to him: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and the widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Our word liturgy is merely the English way of spelling the Greek word for religion, as just quoted. In James' opinion the genuine liturgy is doing good in the way of comforting and relieving the distressed by deeds, not mere words.

A story is told about a very devout and circumspect looking person on his way to Sabbath worship one morning carrying a very pretty book under his arm. Upon being met by an acquaintance he remarked, after bidding the time of day: "May I be so bold as to inquire what that nice looking book you have there?" With a look of surprise, yet with becoming dignified politeness, the gentleman replied: "That, sir, is my lethargy."

This reply is a very suggestive one, and when duly reflected upon leads to a very edifying train of thought in its bearing upon what is pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father.

In the meanwhile before the subject under consideration could be discussed any further we came to Dr. Fleisher's gate, and as it was my plan to visit this family, I took leave of Brother Clark with many thanks for his timely and useful services, and was soon taking my restful ease and comfort in the pleasant home so near.

The Doctor was absent on professional duty, and so I rested with his lady and little daughter to care for me, all of which was done "according to the Queen's taste," if I am any judge.

Three or four years ago, at the hour for morning worship at the old Renick home, it was my privilege to dedicate the first born of these beloved young parents in baptism, and it is all remembered by me as an incident to be ever remembered with special interest.

And now at the age of six years this once "little child" gives gratifying promise of realizing the fond and prayerful hopes and wishes of her devoted parents.

Along with the care of a dozen or more dolls, helping mother in many ways, Hallie Stuart is trying hard to learn to write and showed me a specimen of her self-taught penmanship. This she wrote while I was reading a paper for the latest news. Upon handing it to me she wanted to know if I could read her writing.

I told her when I was one of the little people we most always wrote something like this:

"Roses are red and violets blue,  
Sugar is sweet and so are you."  
This excited her quite much and she exclaimed: "You must be crazy or something to think that I would write stuff like that."

"Well, then, what did you write?" "Read it and let me see."

"I wrote this," and showing me the large capital letters she had written as far as the letter k, she says: "And that is all there is in it, I say." She appeared so seriously in earnest that I rather regretted my levity for the time being. I flatter myself, however, with the pleasing notion that before we parted we came to be on good terms.

Upon leaving for home the next morning she gave me two choice twenty-ounce red pippins, among the finest specimens of apple I ever saw anywhere, and went with me to the gate to tell me good-bye again and be sure to come back soon as I could.

To all appearances, Renick is a place of substantial and prosperous promise.

The resources of a populous, thriving section of Greenbrier and Pocahontas counties are available, and commendable efforts are put forth by the business men of Renick to make it the interest of the people to do their bartering at this station.

Taking all things into consideration, it should and must be a locality to thrive under a governmental regime of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, and men regarded as of more importance than dollars. And if my judgment be not too much at fault, things are working with a tendency to that much-desired final and practical consummation in governmental affairs.

"The home stretch" from Renick to Marlinton was made pleasant by meeting the President of the Marlinton Bank, after three weeks' retirement from official duties, owing to an accidental fall of fifteen feet from a tree, which providentially did not result in sudden death, though coming alarmingly near fatal consequences.

W. T. P.



Yes, we carry the finest watches made, including the "Vanguard," 21 and 25 Jewel Walthams, accurate to the second. Not only these, but cheaper grades as well, all at reasonable prices.

## Our Christmas Goods

are now arriving daily, and our selection will be the Best in Town

When purchasing that Christmas gift you will make a big mistake if you do not consult the

**Greenbrier Jewelry Company,**  
1st National Bank Building,  
2nd Floor

## THE 1900 BALL BEARING



## WASHING MACHINE.

We are agents and are selling the famous "1900" Ball Bearing Washing Machine, which was awarded a gold medal by the jury of awards at the World's Fair at St. Louis. The fact that the jury of awards at the World's Fair, the largest exposition ever held, were so strongly impressed with the great merits of this Washer as to give it the highest distinction by awarding it a gold medal should be sufficient proof that the "1900" is something new and superior to any other machine.

Everyone is invited to call at our place of business to see this Washer.

**MARLINTON FURNITURE CO.**

## ANNOUNCEMENT. TO THE PUBLIC:

I have bought from Mr. J. C. Dawson the feed and supply store formerly owned by Mr. W. A. Grove and expect to carry on the business at the present stand, below the First National Bank, if your patronage will justify me in doing so.

I expect a liberal share of your patronage, if honest goods at the right prices and fair, business-like treatment will bring the results.

My stock will consist of Oils, Salt, Flour, Feed, Hay and Grain, Lime and Cement.

A line of Wagons which I will close out at cost.

I would call especial attention of the merchants to the Magic Safety Oil.

Soliciting a fair share of your patronage,

I am, yours respectfully,

**ELWOOD BOWMAN**

Successor to J. C. Dawson,

W. A. Grove's old stand.

Marlinton, W. Va.

## THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY BUSINESS COLLEGE,

[INCORPORATED]

Harrisonburg, Va.

Teaches All Commercial Branches, Any parties intending to take Instructions in

**BOOKKEEPING, SHORTHAND,  
AND TYPEWRITING**

or any other Commercial Branch, are requested to call on or write us for particulars at once.

**P. L. SMITHERS,**

PRESIDENT

**PROF. F. I. ROGERS,**

SECRETARY